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MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

FACT SHEET

MAYOR SANDERS ANNOUNCES S'MORE SERVICE RESTORATIONS: FIRE PITS TO GET CITY FUNDS

Sanders thanks community leaders for past assistance

Mayor Jerry Sanders announced this evening that the City of San Diego is able to fully fund the cleaning and maintenance of the 186 concrete fire pits at the city's beaches and shoreline parks.

Due to the city's first budget surplus in decades, San Diego is able to provide the \$120,500 needed annually for upkeep on the fire pits for the first time since 2009. The surplus is the result of savings achieved through both reforms like managed competition and an increase in tax revenues.

For the past three and a half years, the community has generously pulled together to help keep the fire pits ablaze. The San Diego Foundation, La Jolla Foundation and the San Diego Convention and Visitor's Bureau have all provided funding, as have the offices of City Council President Pro Tem Kevin Faulconer and City Councilmember Sherri Lightner.

The fire pits stretch from Ocean Beach, through Mission Bay and up to La Jolla.

"These fire pits are a hallmark of San Diego's culture and community. Over the past few years, we've had some great civic minded San Diegans step forward to help keep them available to the public. Now, I'm proud to say that in yet another example of how this city is turning the corner, San Diego can keep the fires lit itself," Mayor Sanders said.

"Gathering around a beach fire pit with friends and family is part of the San Diego experience," said City Council President Pro Tem Kevin Faulconer, who represents Mission Bay. "I've lead a

partnership with the tourism industry and donors to keep fire pits open in the face of several budget deficits. Thanks to fiscal reforms and Mayor Sanders' leadership, the City will be fully funding fire pits this year."

Councilmember Lightner said, "These fire pits have long been an integral part of San Diego's beach experience for locals and visitors alike. The fact that there is now city funding for these fire pits demonstrates that our financial recovery is heating up."

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